

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW
MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 4, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Martin called the regular meeting of the Shoreview City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 4, 2016.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mayor Martin; Councilmembers Johnson, Quigley, Springhorn and Wickstrom.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

As we begin 2016, I believe that everyone in the City can take a great deal of pride in the quality of life that we experience in Shoreview on a day to day basis. The results of our recently completed community survey indicate that our residents rate their hometown as one of the premier communities in the metropolitan area. In fact, 98% of survey respondents rate the quality of life as excellent or good. The 58% that rate the quality of life as excellent is one of the top ratings in the metropolitan area.

The City has been able to achieve this high quality of life because, as a City Council and as a community, we have committed to certain core values. We are a community that:

- Develops and maintains an outstanding park and trail system;
- Builds and maintains quality residential neighborhoods and provides a variety of housing choices;
- Supports our business community to provide jobs, tax base, and commercial services;
- Preserves and protects our natural environment;
- Provides a state of the art Community Center to serve as the central gathering place for our residents; and
- Focuses on long-range financial planning to maintain its excellent financial condition.

Now, I would like to take a few minutes to discuss some of the specific accomplishments during the past year and look forward to some of the important projects planned for 2016.

Economic Development

Even though Shoreview is almost completely developed, there continues to be a significant amount of economic development and redevelopment occurring in the City. This redevelopment is occurring in both the residential and commercial/office sectors.

Housing choices continue to expand in Shoreview with the construction of the first new market rate apartments since the 1970's. The upscale Lakeview Terrace at Victoria and County Road E provide 104 apartment units and were completed in late 2014. Closer to the center of the City, Applewood Pointe, a 77-unit townhouse cooperative development for seniors, was opened in the fall of 2015. Twenty-five single family homes have been constructed by Pulte Homes in the northern part of the City and that development is nearly sold out. Also, in 2016, construction will begin on a 34-unit market rate senior housing addition to the Shoreview Senior Living campus on Hodgson Road just north of Highway 96.

The City is currently reviewing a comprehensive proposal from Elevage, Inc., to redevelop the commercial property on the northwest corner of Rice St. and County Rd, E, just north of 694. The proposal includes an upscale apartment building, townhouses, and some potential for commercial/retail.

Land preparation and grading have taken place in order to facilitate a single-family 10 lot subdivision located along North Owasso Blvd. in southern Shoreview.

In the office/commercial area, Shoreview was pleased to welcome Ally Financial to the Shoreview Corporate Center located at Lexington Avenue and Gramsie Road. Ally has invested over \$6 million in building upgrades to the vacant building at 4000 Lexington in order to accommodate 150 jobs. It is expected that 250 additional jobs will be added by 2017. Next door, the Green Mill Restaurant, located next to the Hampton Inn, was completely renovated and reopened in 2015; and more recently, a Raising Cane's Restaurant, a unique dining option, opened next to Target in the fall of 2015.

In 2016, we hope to see the redevelopment of the former Rainbow Foods store located at Highway 96 and Hodgson Road. The City has been working diligently to facilitate an agreement between the developer, Oppidan, Inc., and Kowalski's Markets to enable a redevelopment of this important retail site. The recent community survey identified the critical need for a grocery store at this site and the City is very enthusiastic about the possibility of Kowalski's purchase of this property and the potential investment of nearly \$20 million for a new 25,000 square foot grocery store, along with reuse of the remainder of the building for Kowalski's bakery and other internal operations.

Shoreview Commons Area

The Shoreview Commons area is home to the Community Center, City Hall, Haffeman Pavilion, Ramsey County Ice Arena and the Ramsey County Library and it serves as the central gathering spot in our City. There are some exciting additions to the Commons that are currently underway. Ramsey County is in the process of constructing a new regional library just south of the existing

library. This new state-of-the-art library will be larger than the current library, incorporate greater technology, and provide expanded services and longer hours. The new library is expected to be completed and opened in January, 2017. The existing library will then be renovated and sold to the Mounds View School District where it will be utilized for the district's administrative offices.

Although it is hard to believe, the Shoreview Community Center celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015. In order to insure that the Community Center continues to provide the best services to our residents, the City is exploring potential expansion options that could include an outdoor water play area, larger indoor playground, improved party facilities, additional family locker rooms, and added multi-purpose space that could be used for recreation programming and, possibly, the arts. Our current goal is to finalize the plans for an expansion in 2016 and begin the project in 2017.

In order to accommodate these projects, the city is in the process of updating the Master Plan for the Shoreview Commons area. In addition to providing easy and safe access to the new library, it is critically important that we review and develop a new Master Plan that can be used as a framework for creating a distinctive campus environment that includes new park features and amenities which reflect the values of the community and best serve residents and visitors of all ages.

Other Major Projects

One of the key projects that will be completed in 2016 is the implementation of quiet zones at the rail crossings on North Owasso Boulevard and on Jerrold Avenue. The cities of Little Canada and Shoreview worked collaboratively with our legislative delegation to secure \$1.7 million in State funding to help make this project a reality. We anticipate that Canadian Pacific Rail will be making the necessary improvements to the rail crossings during the winter and early spring and that we should be able to establish quiet zones at the eight rail crossings in our two cities by late spring or early summer. The dramatic increase in rail traffic and the noise from train horns through this corridor has had a very detrimental impact on the quality of life for many residents in southern Shoreview. I am very pleased that this important project will finally be implemented this year.

Another major project that will begin in 2016 is the reconstruction of I-694 between Rice Street and Lexington Avenue. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will be adding a third general purpose lane to I-694 and rebuilding the freeway ramps throughout this corridor. This project will help eliminate the current traffic bottleneck that occurs during the morning and evening rush hours. This two year, \$42 million dollar project, which is funded through the State's Corridors of Commerce Program, will also allow MnDOT to reduce congestion by opening two lanes on the bridge from northbound 35E to westbound I-694. The City is also collaborating with Ramsey County and our neighboring cities to acquire State funding for the replacement of the Rice St. Bridge over 694. With the support of local businesses and our residents, we are hopeful for approval during this bonding session.

We expect to see improvements on Lexington Ave. between 694 and Victoria St., when Ramsey County rebuilds this section of roadway it will include a new traffic signal with left turn lanes at the County Road F intersection. Ramsey County also plans to resurface County Road J between Lexington Avenue and Hodgson Road in 2016.

Finally, the City is currently in the process of constructing a water treatment plant directly west of the Ramsey County Ice Arena. This \$12 million dollar project is essential in order to reduce the levels of iron and manganese in the City's drinking water. These minerals are considered secondary contaminants in our water supply and the new water treatment plant will provide improved operating efficiencies and more consistent drinking water quality throughout our entire water system when it is operational in late 2016.

Financial Condition

The City continues to be in excellent financial condition as evidenced by our AAA bond rating from Standard & Poor's. This is the highest rating available and was achieved in part because of the City's continued focus on long range financial planning. The City Council recently adopted its biennial budget and a Five Year Operating Plan that establishes financial targets for all of our government funds. We also approved our Capital Improvement Program that anticipates spending more than \$50 million in capital projects over the next 6 years.

The City Council takes a great deal of pride that we have maintained our rating as one of the most cost effective cities in the metropolitan area. Among similar sized cities, Shoreview's share of property taxes on a median value home of \$247,500 in 2015 were \$811, about 20% below the average of \$1,020. This is the fifth lowest of 29 cities that are similar in size to Shoreview.

Conclusion

During my many years of involvement with the City, I am more convinced than ever before that local government has the most significant impact on the quality of life in a community. As a City Council, we take great pride in our recently completed community survey which showed that 97% of our residents believe that the City is headed in the right direction. This is the highest rating on this question that the survey firm has received in the metropolitan area. At a time when there is continued skepticism about government at all levels, I am very pleased that Shoreview's government can stay "close to its citizens" and continue to make a positive difference in the community.

As a City, we are committed to insuring that our governance process is open and accessible, and that our residents are well informed. We accomplish this by televising and streaming all of our Planning Commission and City Council meetings, publishing the ShoreViews newsletter six times per year, as well as frequent social media posts on both Twitter and Facebook. We are also starting a new program in 2016, a Citizens' Leadership Academy, whose goal is to provide more detailed information about Shoreview's local government operations to interested residents. Although space is limited, we do have a few spots remaining if you are interested. The program will run for 6 weeks and begin in late March.

On behalf of the City Council, I would like to thank our many committee and commission members who volunteer their time to make Shoreview a better place to live and work. I would also like to thank our entire City staff that is dedicated to providing quality services and programs to our residents. Finally, I want to extend my personal thanks to my colleagues on the City Council – Emy Johnson, Terry Quigley, Ady Wickstrom and Cory Springhorn. It is a pleasure to work with each of you and I know that all of you spend countless hours working to make Shoreview a better place to live, work and play.. I especially appreciate the respectful and cooperative tone that we have established and I recognize that it is our teamwork that allows us to work together for the good of our community. It is an honor to serve as your Mayor and I look forward to this exciting and fulfilling New Year!

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Springhorn to approve the January 4, 2016 agenda as submitted.

VOTE: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were none.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Wickstrom:

A reminder of the upcoming Environmental Quality Committee Speaker Series. The first presentation will be Recycling Myths and Mysteries Solved on January 20, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Councilmember Springhorn:

The Shoreview Historical Society will be celebrating its 25th year in 2016. Two kickoff events are planned. The first, entitled Suburbia Revisited, How Shoreview Fits, will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2016 at the library at 2:00 p.m. On Sunday, January 31, 2016, there will be a program on the early years of the Lake Region Hockey Association at the Community Center at 2:00 p.m.

There will be several Lego League teams holding a scrimmage in preparation for upcoming competitions on Thursday, January 7, 2016, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Wedell Community Room at the Community Center. It is an opportunity for anyone interested to come and see the teams in action.

Congratulations to newly elected Mayor Emily Larson of Duluth.

Councilmember Johnson:

There have been accidents from unsafe ice on lakes. A caution to all to be careful!

CONSENT AGENDA

Item Nos. 1 and 2 were pulled for separate consideration.

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to adopt the Consent Agenda for January 4, 2016, as presented and all relevant resolutions for item Nos. 3, through 11:

3. December 21, 2015 City Council Meeting Minutes
4. Receipt of Committee/Commission Minutes:
 - Environmental Quality Committee, December 21, 2015
5. Verified Claims in the Amount of \$1,269,328.90
6. Purchases
7. License Applications
8. Ramsey Conservation District Erosion Control Agreement
9. Approval of 2016 Tree Contract-Removal Work
10. Approve Cooperative Agreement with Roseville for Maintenance of Valley Park Ponds
11. Authorization to Purchase Replacements - Unit 215, Garage Sweeper, Mower Tractor

VOTE: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

MOTION: by Councilmember Quigley, seconded by Councilmember Springhorn to approve item Nos. 1 and 2 of the Consent Agenda, the December 14, 2015 City Council Special Meeting Minutes and the December 14, 2015 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes respectively.

VOTE: Ayes - 4 Nays - 0 Abstain - 1 (Wickstrom)

Councilmember Wickstrom abstained, as she was not present at the meetings on December 14, 2015.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

GENERAL BUSINESS**DESIGNATION OF LEGAL NEWSPAPER FOR 2016**

Presentation by City Manager Terry Schwerm

Each year, the City is required to designate a legal newspaper by state statute. The City's legal newspaper is the one used for all advertisements of public hearings, publication of ordinances or other notices. Bids for 2016 rates were received from the Shoreview Press at \$4.90 per column inch and the Shoreview-Arden Hills Bulletin at \$4.30 per column inch. The total cost the City spends per year is approximately \$1500. The City has had the practice of rotating between the two newspapers because both cover the City. However, the Shoreview Press is now a bi-weekly publication, which can create difficulties for the City to publish legal notices in a timely manner. Staff is recommending designation of the Shoreview-Arden Hills Bulletin as the City's legal newspaper.

Councilmember Quigley expressed concern about cutting the Shoreview Press out of consideration and asked how inconvenient it would be to use the Press.

Mr. Schwerm explained that either paper could be designated. It would require staff to submit information a week earlier. The timing would not be an issue for routine items. The issue occurs when Planning Commission items are delayed. Depending on when a public hearing notice can be published and the date of the next Planning Commission meeting, there could be instances where the city would be required to extend the review period for an application before considering it because of the timing of the notice and the City's 90-day rule to complete review of applications. He suggested that notices could be published in both papers.

Councilmember Wickstrom agreed that bi-weekly publication does cause timing problems for legal notices. She noted that the City does put in a substantial number of ads in the Shoreview Press.

Mayor Martin added that in addition to ads, the City also puts a column in the Press every few of weeks.

MOTION: by Councilmember Quigley, seconded by Councilmember Springhorn to designate the Shoreview-Arden Hills Bulletin as the legal newspaper for the City of Shoreview for the 2016 calendar year.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Johnson, Quigley, Springhorn, Wickstrom, Martin
Nays: None

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENTS

Presentation by City Manager Terry Schwerm

It is the City's practice each year in January to reappoint members who wish to continue to serve on their respective citizen advisory committees and commissions. The exception is Planning Commission members who are required to reapply for their position after serving two full terms. Should a member of a committee/commission not wish to be reappointed or resigns, the vacancy is advertised in the local newspapers. Staff is recommending reappointment of the names submitted who have indicated their interest in continuing to serve on their respective committees/commissions.

MOTION: by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Quigley to reappoint the following individuals to their respective committees/commissions for terms expiring January 31, 2019:

Bike and Trails Committee	Craig Mullenbach Jay Martin
Economic Development Commission	Joshua Wing Susan Denkinger Jeffrey Washburn
Human Rights Commission	Julie B. Williams Elaine Carnahan
Parks and Recreation Commission	Desaree Crane Craig John
Public Safety Committee	Jorgen Nelson Marc Pelletier Ed Povlinski Treverse Guess

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Quigley, Springhorn, Wickstrom, Johnson, Martin
Nays: None

Mayor Martin noted that new applications for vacancies are being processed. Applicants for the Planning Commission will be interviewed next week.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS FOR 2016

A discussion was held on review of Council delegates for 2016 to the various boards and organizations that Councilmembers serve on during the year.

Councilmember Wickstrom noted that the annual convention of the League of Minnesota Cities will be held in the Twin Cities this summer in conjunction with the Alliance for Innovation organization working with the League. She encouraged all Councilmembers to plan to attend.

Mayor Martin noted that Chanhassen has now joined the Municipal Legislative Commission. The Municipal Legislative Commission will hold its annual breakfast meeting January 29, 2016. All Councilmembers are encouraged to attend.

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Springhorn to appoint the following individuals to represent the City of Shoreview on various organizations for the year 2016:

Fire Department Board of Directors	Delegate: Councilmember Johnson Delegate: City Manager Schwerm
Fire Department Benefit Association	Delegate: Councilmember Johnson Alternate: City Manager Schwerm
League of Minnesota Cities	Delegate: Councilmember Wickstrom Alternate: Councilmember Springhorn
Municipal Legislative Commission	Delegate: Mayor Martin Delegate: City Manager Schwerm
Northeast Youth and Family Services	Delegate: Councilmember Springhorn Alternate: Councilmember Johnson
Ramsey County League of Local Governments	Delegate: Councilmember Quigley Alternate: Councilmember Springhorn
Suburban Rate Authority	Delegate: Mark Maloney Alternate: Councilmember Quigley
Metro Cities (Association of Metropolitan Municipalities)	Delegate: Councilmember Wickstrom Alternate: Rebecca Olson
Acting Mayor:	Delegate: Councilmember Quigley
ROLL CALL:	Ayes: Springhorn, Wickstrom, Johnson, Quigley, Martin Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Councilmember Quigley, seconded by Councilmember Springhorn to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

VOTE: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Mayor Martin declared the meeting adjourned.

THESE MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 19th DAY OF JANUARY 2016.

Terry Schwerm
City Manager